

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-5. Canceled.

6. (currently amended): A method of splicing a fiber optic cable comprising:
applying a clamp to a first portion of a first fiber optic cable;
using a bail to connect the clamp to a support structure;
connecting a splice closure to the bail;
connecting an aerial splicing platform to the bail; and
splicing a second portion of the first fiber optic cable to a second fiber optic cable in the splice closure;
wherein said first fiber optic cable does not pass through said bail.

7. (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the splice closure is positioned away from the clamp to maintain a minimum bend radius in the first fiber optic cable.

8. (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the first fiber optic cable is an all-dielectric, self-supporting (ADSS) fiber optic cable.

9. (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the first fiber optic cable comprises:
an ADSS cable including a plurality of optical fibers which can be accessed without
severing the first fiber optic cable or requiring additional slack in the first fiber optic cable to
perform a splice.

10. (previously presented): The method of claim 6, wherein splice points or slack
coils are not predetermined prior to applying the clamp to a first portion of a first fiber optic
cable and using a bail to connect the clamp to a support structure.

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 6, wherein the splicing method is a
taut sheath splicing method.

12. (new): A method of splicing a fiber optic cable comprising:
applying a clamp to a first portion of a first fiber optic cable;
using a bail to connect the clamp to a support structure;
connecting a splice closure to the bail;
connecting an aerial splicing platform to the bail; and
splicing a second portion of the first fiber optic cable to a second fiber optic cable in the
splice closure;
wherein said bail is not connected to said first fiber optic cable.